

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SY-05 SCCT-01 USSS-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /074 W

----- 003121

R 230811Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5948

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: PATTANI UNITED LIBERATION ORGANIZATION

1. ON DECEMBER 20 DANISH AMBASSADOR FRANTZ HOWITZ INFORMED DCM THAT THE THAI EMBASSY IN COPENHAGEN HAD RECEIVED A THREATENING LETTER UNDER THE TITLE OF THE PATTANI UNITED LIBERATION ORGANIZATION (PULO). THE LETTER WAS SIGNED BY SAIFUDDIN KAHLAID AND ADIL AHMAD. THE DANISH AMBASSADOR REQUESTED OUR COOPERATION IN OBTAINING INFORMATION CONCERNING THE ORGANIZATION.

2. POLICE LT. COL. PAKASIT, SPECIAL BRANCH DIVISION OF CID, WAS CONTACTED. SOURCE STATED THAT THE THAI EMBASSIES IN BONN, KUALA LUMPUR, STOCKHOLM, AND TOKYO HAVE RECEIVED SIMILAR LETTERS OVER THE PAST WEEK. SOURCE STATED THAT THE PULO IS A SEPARATIST ORGANIZATION SEEKING TO ESTABLISH A MUSLIM STATE IN THE PATTANI, YALA, AND NARATHIWAT PROVINCES IN SOUTHERN THAILAND. THIS MOVEMENT PRESENTLY HAS ACHIEVED SUPPORT FROM THAI-MUSLIM STUDENTS IN THE SOUTH AS WELL AS THAI-MUSLIM STUDENTS LIVING ABROAD. STUDENTS HAVE BEEN OFFERED SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDY IN

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VARIOUS MIDDLE EASTERN COUNTRIES AND SOME OF THESE STUDENTS

ARE ASSOCIATED WITH THE SEPARATIST MOVEMENT. SOURCE STATED THAT HE IS NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE NAMES OF SAIFUDDIN KAHLAID AND ADIL AHMAD AND SPECULATED THAT THEY MAY BE NEW ELEMENTS SEEKING PROMINENCE WITHIN THE OVERALL SEPARATIST MOVEMENT. THE PRESENT LEADERSHIP UNDER ADUL NA SAIBURI IS QUITE OLD. THE ORGANIZATION HEADQUARTERS ARE BELIVED TO BE IN KALANTAN, MALAYSIA.

3. SOURCE STATED THE SEPARATIST MOVEMENT, WHICH IS APPROXIMATELY 30 YEARS OLD, DOES NOT HAVE BROAD-BASED LOCAL SUPPORT AMONG MOST OF THE RESIDENTS OF PATTANI, YALA, AND NARATHIWAT PROVINCES, AND HE DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT THEY HAVE AN OVERSEAS OPERATIONAL CAPABILITY SIMILAR TO THAT EXERCISED BY THE ARA OR PLO. HOWEVER, THEY MAY BE COPYING EITHER ONE OF THESE ORGANIZATIONS. SOURCE DOUBTS THAT THE ORGANIZATION HAS A STRONG FINANCIAL OR OPERATIONAL STRUCTURE. HE STATED THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 30 LARGE BANDIT GROUPS FUNCTIONING IN SOUTHERN THAILAND WHO HAVE CLAIMED ON OCCASION TO BE PART OF THE SEPARATIST MOVEMENT. HOWEVER, THERE IS NO CLEARLY ESTABLISHED CONNECTION BETWEEN THE BANDITS AND THE SEPARATISTS EXCEPT THAT IN THE PRESENT POLITICAL SITUATION BOTH GROUPS HAVE CONVERGED ON THE ISSUE OF REQUESTING THE REMOVAL OF THAI MILITARY FORCES FROM THE SOUTHERN PROVINCES.

WHITEHOUSE

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